

Convicted rapist gives up quest to avoid registering

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A convicted rapist on Friday withdrew his request to be relieved from requirements to register as a sex offender and report to a community corrections officer on a quarterly basis.

Donald Lee Giffin, 62, decided to strike his motion in Pierce County Superior Court after a judge declined to prohibit news outlets from photographing the hearing.

Giffin was convicted of two first-degree rape charges in 1982 and sentenced to a term of life in prison. That sentence was suspended after Giffin was declared a sexual psychopath and ordered into deviancy treatment at Western State Hospital.

Giffin, who admitted to committing as many as 20 rapes in the Tacoma area in the late 1970s and early 1980s, completed the treatment program and was released into the community. A Pierce County judge required him to register as a sex offender and report to a community corrections officer for the rest of his life.

Giffin last year filed paperwork asking for those restrictions to be removed, saying he has remained crime-free, is married and has a good job. Prosecutors opposed his request.

Judge Garold Johnson was scheduled to hold a hearing on the motion Friday but granted Giffin's request to cancel it.

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